

the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give thoughtful consideration to his excellent article.

[From The New York Times, March 27, 2001]

A STRANGE WALTZ IN VIENNA

(By Stanley B. Greenberg)

VIENNA.—I am an American Jew, yet found myself in Vienna under attack by Jörg Haider, one of Europe's more notorious anti-Semitic politicians. I was in Vienna doing what I normally do, conducting polls and providing advice to political leaders and their campaigns—this time for the Social Democratic candidate for mayor, the incumbent, Michael Häupl. I had provided similar services for Bill Clinton and Al Gore, Tony Blair, Nelson Mandela and Ehud Barak. As a rule, I keep to the background, offering my ideas privately and far away from the TV cameras. Vienna was to be different.

Mr. Haider led the Freedom Party to prominence by attacking foreigners and Jews, expressing admiration for some of Hitler's policies and championing some populist ideas of his own. His party got 27.9 percent of the vote here in the local election in 1996.

Speaking before his party convention, Mr. Haider declared, "Häupl has a strategist called Greenberg," eliciting giggles in the room. "He specially flew him in from the East Coast." For Mr. Haider, "East Coast" means New York City and powerful Jews, the people who brought down Austrian president Kurt Waldheim and have tried to extract reparations for the Jewish victims of Nazi aggression. Mr. Haider spoke more about the foreigner, then intoned: "Dear friends, you have the choice on 25 March between spin-doctor Greenberg from the East Coast or the Viennese hearts." This was greeted by massive applause.

I was not alone in the line of fire; Haider had singled out Ariel Muzicant, leader of the Jewish community in Vienna, for derision. He scoffed at his given name, which is also the name of a popular washing powder. And Mr. Haider wondered mockingly how "anyone with such a name can have such dirty hands," economically summoning up the "pollution" fears and class-struggle stereotypes of 1930's anti-Semitism.

Mr. Haider's candidate in Vienna, Helene Partik-Pablé, spoke of foreigners who "won't integrate." "They carry on with their own life-style," she said. "That leads to tensions involving noise, dirt and so on." She further declared, "We need to introduce zero immigration."

My first reaction was a certain pride in being attacked by Mr. Haider. But that was bravado, on the whole. The refrain of "East Coast" was unnerving.

One Saturday, after touring the city, I went to the Naschmarkt. The air carried many inviting scents—Austrian sausages on the grill, and Chinese stir-fry, the fruity tang of olives pickling in open tubs, Turkish döner rotating on a vertical skewer. So many aromas, most of which Mr. Haider would wish away. I accidentally bumped into Mayor Häupl, who was campaigning there. A few of the TV cameras turned to film me, and I did my best to disappear without seeming to pull a trench coat across my face. I was determined to avoid becoming a TV image two weeks before the election.

The notion entered my mind of other Jews hiding, seeking anonymity, in an earlier age. But I soon realized I was in a different time. I have been given the chance—denied my relatives in Eastern Europe, decades ago—to fight. With polls and focus groups, I helped develop issues and themes to deny Mr. Haider what he thrives on, namely voters

frustrated and alienated and looking for foreigners to blame. The Social Democrats made a new effort to harness social changes that many Austrians find frightening—by encouraging high-technology employment, investing more in schools and public transport and enhancing retirement security.

I also came to realize that I was not alone in Austria. Mr. Haider closed his campaign with a flurry of neighborhood rallies continuing the refrain about the "East Coast." The Social Democrats finished with a rally of some 2000 supporters jammed into the Museumsquartier, the Hapsburgs' former stables. Mayor Häupl concluded his last campaign address with a warning about Mr. Haider: "His attacks against the East Coast and against our consultant Greenberg, against the president of the Jewish community" make him "personally responsible" for "anti-Semitism." "This policy is against all of us," Mayor Häupl said.

On Sunday Vienna voters made their choices. Mr. Haider's Freedom Party lost almost one-third of its support, plummeting eight percentage points from the previous high. The Social Democrats made historic gains, taking up those eight points and winning an absolute majority on the city council.

I could focus on the fact that, last Sunday, one in five people in one of Europe's most tolerant and progressive cities voted for the anti-Semite. But I prefer to dwell on the fact that I had the opportunity to help drive back one of the dark forces of our time and I did not fight alone.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRESTOLITE WIRE CORPORATION RECEIVING THE GEORGIA OGLETHORPE AWARD FOR PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2001

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Prestolite Wire Corporation, the year 2000 recipient of the Georgia Oglethorpe award for performance excellence. Prestolite is the first manufacturing and small industry applicant to receive the state's highest honor.

The Georgia Oglethorpe award is open to business, industry, government, education, healthcare, and non-profit organizations and is awarded for performance excellence.

I would like to commend all the people of Prestolite Wire Corporation on their outstanding performance and operation that makes them the sole recipient of the award for the manufacturing, small industry category. This award should make everyone involved with Prestolite proud to be a part of a corporation to earn such a prestigious award.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees

to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 29, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 3

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues surrounding Alzheimer's Disease.

SH-216

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine national energy policy with respect to impediments to development of domestic oil and natural gas resources.

SD-628

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine online entertainment and related copyright law.

SD-226

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine issues surrounding nuclear power.

SD-124

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the process of finding successful solutions relative to Medicare and Managed Care.

SD-215

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider proposed legislation to amend U.S. anti-drug certification procedures; S.Res.27, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the 1944 deportation of the Chechen people to central Asia; S.Res.60, urging the immediate release of Kosovar Albanians wrongfully imprisoned in Serbia; S.Con.Res.7, expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should establish an international education policy to enhance national security and significantly further United States foreign policy and global competitiveness; S.Con.Res.23, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the involvement of the Government in Libya in the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103; and the nomination of William Howard Taft, IV, of Virginia, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Hart-Rudman Report, with respect to homeland defense.

SD-226